

CLAIMS

I/we claim:

1. A food processing appliance for processing foodstuff comprising:
 - a housing;
 - 5 an electric motor mounted within the housing
 - a bowl removably mountable to the housing;
 - a bowl lid removably mountable over the bowl, the bowl being mounted to the housing and the bowl lid being mounted over the bowl in a working position to enable power to be applied to the motor;
 - 10 a control mechanism mounted to the housing and operatively connected to the electric motor;
 - a sensor transmitting a signal when the bowl and bowl lid are in the working position; and
 - an indicator including a transparent plate mounted around a periphery of the control mechanism, the indicator visually indicating that the bowl and bowl lid are in the working position upon receiving the signal from the sensor.
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2. The food processing appliance of claim 1 wherein the control mechanism is comprised of a rotary switch including a dial exposed from a surface of the housing.
3. The food processing appliance of claim 1 wherein the indicator includes a light emitting device, a reflector and the transparent plate, the light emitting device mounted such that the reflector directs light from the light emitting device onto at least the transparent plate.
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4. The food processing appliance of claim 3 wherein the transparent plate is generally annular.
5. The food processing appliance of claim 4 wherein the control mechanism is surrounded by the transparent plate.
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6. The food processing appliance of claim 1 wherein the sensor is a momentary switch that is mounted within the housing, the momentary switch being closed only when the bowl and bowl lid are in the working position.

7. The food processing appliance of claim 1 wherein the control mechanism includes a generally disc-shaped dial exposed from a surface of the housing, the transparent plate being generally annular and being mounted to the housing around the dial.

8. A food processing appliance for processing foodstuff comprising:
a housing;
a bowl removably mountable to the housing;
a bowl lid removably mountable over the bowl;
a feed tube extending from a top bowl lid wall of the bowl lid, the feed tube including a feed mouth;
a feed tube cover at least partially covering the feed mouth in a closed position, the feed tube cover being movable between a loading position and the closed position; and
an indicator on the housing and indicating when the feed tube cover is in the closed position, the bowl lid is mounted over the bowl and the bowl is mounted to the housing in an operating position.

9. The food processing appliance of claim 8 further comprising:
a control mechanism including a generally disc-shaped dial exposed from a surface of the housing, the indicator including a generally annular-shaped transparent plate that is mounted to the housing around the dial.

10. The food processing appliance of claim 8 further comprising:
a momentary switch mounted within the housing, the momentary switch being in a closed position only when the bowl, bowl lid and feed tube cover are in the operating position.

11. The food processing appliance of claim 10 further comprising:
a motor mounted within the housing, the motor being provided with electric power only when the switch is in the closed position.

12. An indicator for an electric food processing appliance, the food processing appliance including a housing, a bowl and a bowl lid, the indicator comprising:

a transparent plate mounted to the housing, the transparent plate including an exposed surface visible on an external surface of the housing;

5 a reflector mounted within the housing; and

a light emitting device directing light onto the transparent plate when the bowl and bowl lid are in a working position.

13. The indicator of claim 12 further comprising:

10 a control mechanism including a dial mounted to the housing, the dial being exposed from the external surface of the housing, the transparent plate being positioned adjacent a periphery of the dial.

14. The indicator of claim 13 wherein the transparent plate is constructed of a polycarbonate material

15 15 The indicator of claim 12 wherein the reflector is conical and includes an apex, the apex being located on an opposite side of the transparent plate from the exposed surface in an assembled condition.

16. The indicator of claim 12 wherein the reflector includes a reflective surface, the reflective surface reflecting light from the light emitting device toward a mouth of the reflector.

20 17. The indicator of claim 16 wherein the reflective surface is comprised of a chrome plating material.

18. The indicator of claim 12 wherein the transparent plate is generally annular.